

Today's Topics:

ARRL
CDE Rotator Parts
Mac vs IBM (and now "vs Amiga")
Modifying Commerical Radios for use in Ham Bands
Profanity on rec.ham-radio
Scanner For Sale

Date: 21 Dec 89 15:24:01 GMT

From: haven!saysshell.umd.edu!louie@purdue.edu (Louis A. Mamakos)

Subject: ARRL

Message-ID: <1989Dec21.152401.28039@haven.umd.edu>

In the past few months I've been putting together an OSCAR station, and I've found that 73 has had much more useful information than QST has, especially the "HAMSAT" theme issue they had a few months back. If you can skim over Wayne's prognostications, the rest of the magazine isn't too bad.

I've never understood why the Microwave stuff got thrown out of QST, but we were left with "Silent Keys?" Which of the two columns do you think will advance Amateur Radio.

And no, I haven't been a member of the League since around 1979 when I was in High School, and didn't know any better. The final straw for me was when renewal came along, and I looked at QST and saw pages upon pages of contest results and "Section News", which as far as I can tell, is only read by the folks submitting stuff to the column.

I do, however, belong to and support AMSAT who reflect my interests much more closely than the Newington folks rooted firmly in the 1950's.

louie WA3YMH

P.S. I saw a note about someone ordering the KA9Q code for the Amiga; if you have anonymous FTP, you can get a snapshot of work in progress from SAYSHELL.UMD.EDU. Look for newer versions sometime after the first of the year.

Date: Thu Dec 21 08:45:34 1989

From: rnewell@ocdis01.af.mil (GS-05 Ray Newell;SCUE;)

Subject: CDE Rotator Parts

Message-ID: <8912211445.AA21236@ocdis01.af.mil>

>From a business card received at Ham-Comm '89 in Dallas:

Telex Hy-Gain
8601 Corn Husker Highway
Lincoln NE 68505

Rotator parts: (402) 465-7021
Antenna or Tower parts: (402) 465-7022

8am - 4pm Central time weekdays

I ordered parts for my old CDE Big Talk and they were quite helpful.

Apply all suitable disclaimers regarding the above.

Happy Holidays
KB5AWD

Date: Wed, 20 Dec 89 08:26:52 EST
From: scubed!pro-graphics.cts.com!bobl@harvard.harvard.edu (Bob Lindabury)
Subject: Mac vs IBM (and now "vs Amiga")
Message-ID: <8912210736.AA16849@trout.nosc.mil>

In Info-Hams cbmvax!adam@rutgers.edu (Adam Keith Levin) writes:
>> [blush] Now I AM embarrassed. How could I have forgotten Amiga?!
>> AmigaDOS supports multi-tasking 'out of the box'. Amiga gives you full
>> power in either windowed or CLI environments. And, if I recall correctly,
>> KA9Q has already been ported to it.

Does anyone know where or how someone would be able to obtain the HAM
Radio or Packet software for the Amiga? Is it in the Public Domain?
If not, can someone steer me in the correct direction to get more info
on it and just what it does. Are there any other products out there
for this type of thing besides "KA9Q" that is mentioned above?

I am interested in connecting my Amiga up in this manner but I am
currently a novice at any of this stuff and most of it makes no sense
to me at all at this point in time. (concerning the Packet connection)
Maybe someone would be nice enough to outline how you hook up a BBS to
a Packet setup and what exactly is need to to transmit and receive
messages/mail.

Thanks,

-- Bob

----- Pro-Graphics BBS 201/469-0049 -----

InterNet: bob1@pro-graphics.cts.com | ProLine: bob1@pro-graphics
UUCP: ..crash!pro-graphics!bob1 | CServe: 70347,2344
ARPA/DDN: ..crash!pro-graphics!bob1@nosc.mil | Amer. Online: Graphics3D

Raven Enterprises - 25 Raven Ave. Piscataway, NJ 08854

Date: 21 Dec 89 02:04:33 GMT
From: hpl-opus!hpnmdla!hpsad!mikew@hplabs.hp.com (Mike Weihman)
Subject: Modifying Commerical Radios for use in Ham Bands
Message-ID: <1530037@hpsad.HP.COM>

> From: wa2sff@cbnewsh.ATT.COM (joseph.e.wilkes):

> I recently saw an Ad for a Marine Store that listed Marine Hand Held units
> for about \$150.
> The unit used thumb wheel switches to select the channels.
> The unit seemed similar to Hand helds of a few years ago.
>
> At \$150 (about 1/2 the price of cheap 2 meter Hand held), it might be
> appropriate to use as a second hand held or for a new ham just starting out.
>
> I could see that maybe it would only transmit simplex and there could
> be other problems.
>
> Two meter FM got its start by modifying surplus 150 MHz gear to 2 meters.
> Two of my many 2 meter rigs over the years were done that way.
> Also both the 2 meter and 440 repeaters I put on the air were surplus.
>
> Has anyone tried this with Marine radios or cellular telephones?

I used to work in a marine electronics shop, and had access to lots of
junked but fixable radios. Some notes on conversion to ham use:

1) The old crystallized radios are fairly easy to convert to the ham
bands by simply re-tuning the appropriate tuned circuits and
oscillators. The only drawback is...they're crystal controlled! (and
usually need separate T and R crystals)

2) Newer synthesized radios are pretty slick. However, they are MUCH
more difficult to make work in the ham bands since they are
synthesized, and the working frequencies are channelized. The marine
channels follow a nonintuitive pattern, so that these radios are
controlled through a diode matrix or a ROM lookup table which may be

If you are willing to build a whole new PLL section/synthesizer, or to add a simple crystal oscillator in the place of the PLL VCO, these radios are not bad.

4) A word of advice: know the status of any old radios that you pay money for. The old ones are not well weather-sealed, and salt spray does n-a-s-t-y things to PCB's. Even some well-sealed radios have been completely submerged at one time or another, so at least give 'em a visual check.

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I agree that passing this traffic thru to Packet Radio without screening is not wise (and probably illegal) but I can also think of at least one

KB3YV
